

REMARKS

With the foregoing Amendment, claims 1 has been cancelled and claims 23-43 have been added. Claims 2-22 were previously cancelled in the Preliminary Amendment filed March 25, 2005. Support for the new claims can be found throughout the specification; specifically, for example, the cancelled claims. The new claims were amended to place the claims in a format preferred for prosecution in the United States, including removing multiple dependencies and omnibus claims. The amendments are not intended to limit the claims in any way.

Appendix A, hereto, is a marked-up copy of the amended portions of the specification. The last paragraph on page 10 of the specification was amended to include the date of the deposit for NCIMB 41125. Table 1 that bridges pages 33-34 of the specification has been amended to add the SEQ ID NOs.

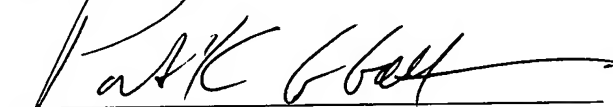
A sequence listing has been added in paper form. A computer readable copy of the sequence listing is enclosed herewith.

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.821(f) and (g), the Applicants undersigned representative confirms that the information recorded on the computer readable form of the sequence listing is identical to the paper copy, and the sequence listing does not include matter which goes beyond the disclosure of the international application.

No new matter has been added by any of the amendments.

If the Examiner is of the opinion that a telephone conference would expedite the prosecution of the application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative.

Respectfully submitted,
McDonnell Boehnen Hulbert & Berghoff LLP

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Patrick G. Gattari", written over a horizontal line.

Patrick G. Gattari
Registration No. 39,682

Appendix A

Marked-up versions of the Amendments to the Specification

The following is a marked-up version of the paragraph at page 10, lines 19-22:

According to a first aspect of the invention there is provided a biologically pure bacterial culture of *M. elsdenii* having substantially the same 16S ribosomal RNA sequence as that of the *M. elsdenii* strain deposited on March 18, 2002 at NCIMB, Aberdeen, Scotland, UK under number NCIMB 41125.

The following is a marked-up versions of Table I that bridges pages 33-34 of the specification:

| Primer Target position ^a Primer sequence (5' to 3') | Primer Target position ^a Primer sequence (5' to 3') | Primer Target position ^a Primer sequence (5' to 3') |
|---|---|---|
| Reverse direction (antisense) | | |
| R11 (PCR) | 1384-1400 | CGGTGTGTACAAGGCC [SEQ ID NO:1] |
| R1193 | 1174-1192 | CGTCATCCCCGCCTTCCTC [SEQ ID NO:2] |
| R1353 | 1336-1352 | CGATTACTAGCGATTCC [SEQ ID NO:3] |
| R961/R7 | 949-963 | TCGAATTAAACCACA [SEQ ID NO:4] |
| R5 | 786-802 | CTACCAGGGTATCTAAT [SEQ ID NO:5] |
| R361/R1 | 340-355 | CTGCTGCCTCCCGTAGG [SEQ ID NO:6] |

| | | |
|------------------------------|-----------|--------------------------------------|
| Forward direction (sense) | | |
| FD1/F1 (PCR) | 8-26 | AGAGTTTGATCCTGGCTCA [SEQ ID NO:7] |
| F1353 | 1336-1352 | GGAATCGCTAGTAATCG [SEQ ID NO:8] |
| F361 | 340-355 | CCTACGGGAGGCAGCAG [SEQ ID NO:9] |
| F961 | 949-963 | TGTGGTTTAATTCGA [SEQ ID NO:10] |

^aAll target positions for primers refer to *E. coli* numbering systems (Brosius *et al.* , 1978).